THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."

No. 1567 *Wednesday, Dec.* 13, 1826. *Price* 1*d.*

☞ When going to the Play, Ask for *The Theatrical Observer.*

Covent Garden Theatre.

The School for Scandal, which cannot tire by repetition, was attended last night by a full house. *The Marriage of Figaro* followed.

Drury Lane Theatre.

THE Comedy of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, with Mr. Dowton, as *Sir John Falstaff*, entertained a tolerably well filled house, last night. Braham, as *Fenton*, sang "With thee fair Maid," very beautifully. The young lady with whose name we have not yet been indulged, made a second appearance as *Ann Page*. She has gained more confidence, and was very warmly encored in "When it is the time of night."—She is deficient as an actress. Miss Stephens as far as the opportunities of play could allow, was as delightful as ever.

BRIGHTON, Dec. 10.—The Theatre, last night, had an elegant auditory, in which, the junior branches of the Bedford family were included, for the benefit of the eldest son of the manager, a lad of extraordinary talent, Mr. Russell. The Play was *Douglas*, in which *Young Norval* was personified by the youth spoken of, with singular excellence. Mrs. Russel was the *Lady Randolph*, and seldom, indeed, in this part of the world, has the character received such an able, nay, exquisite delineation. The public hope is that she may be induced to repeat it at no distant period. The celebrated musical child, Master Burke, is engaged, and will make his first appearance on Wednesday, and also, we have no doubt, will meet with a patronage similar to that which his precocious talents have commanded elsewhere. Mr. H. Johnstone was the *Glenalvon* of the night.

The new Comedy by the Author of *Paul Pry*, which has been some time in rehearsal at Covent Garden, and which, it was intended to produce in the course of next week, has been postponed till after Chrismas, in consequence of the indisposition of Madame Vestris, who is to perform the principal female character.

A female box-opener of the Opera-House in Paris, was assassinated yesterday se'nnight, in the Rue de Cadran.

We would, as we yesterday observed, willingly decline all remark upon the disputes between managers and actors. It is not because such occurrences do not frequently and materially interfere with the public amusement, nor that we consider the affairs of the drama unworthy of general concern, but we conceive that as judges of any points, beyond matters of taste, the patrons of the drama ought only to be appealed

to in the last resort. What we would, however, inculcate, is an alteration of the general system—a universal firmness on the part of the management—a more general compliance on that of performers. It is matter of perfect notoriety, that the interests of particular leading performers are consulted, exclusively in the cast and production of pieces, and that with all possible care, managers find it difficult to persuade where they ought to command. This is so completely recognised by the audiences that they assist the injustice, universally estimating the talent of the actor by the parts he undertakes, rather than by the manner in which he performs them. Were managements as they should be, with only such restrictions as might be made by positive engagement, absolute and unswerving in their use of the highest, as well as the lowest talent in the Theatre, the evil would be remedied; the public would then consider them solely responsible for the effect of the dramas produced, and the particular representation of each individual engaged, and learn to allow that although a character may not shew the talents of its representative to their full extent, it is still well performed, and worthy of being so. The power to refuse indifferent parts is the present mark of superiority, a point in which the public are to the full as much to blame as the other parties, from a want of critical appreciation. We have been led into these remarks from the charge brought by an author against a celebrated female vocalist, in a small weekly publication, in which he is supposed to have some interest. We will interfere no further in the discussion than to say, that the lady's answer is to us quite satisfactory;—she says, she is not fined for the refusal to perform the character allotted to her—this, in our minds, is conclusive; the managers had not the inclination or the firmness to do so. If the former she is unquestionably right, if the latter they are unquestionably wrong. By the way, it might be as well to hint to the author, contributor, or editor, in question, that he might be on more peacable terms with the instruments of his authorship trade, if he were not, by his other profession of critic, so likely to become their opponent; at all events, we should feel so, were we smitten with the desire of dramatic writing. Most sincerely we wish peace to all parties, and an amiable and generous adjustment of their differences; this they may rely on—the public will be delighted in the success of their joint efforts, but takes as little interest in their individual squabbles as we should in a contest between a cook and a housekeeper, when our only desire is to have a good dinner: yet—heaven help us! by the minuteness of circumstance, and tediousness of detail, in which they indulge, one would think they expected their conversations to become matters of history. When a real case of injustice is made out, the public, and its organ, the press, will doubtless be indignant, and prove their indignation—but we do not break a fly upon a wheel.

WINE INSPIRES US—AND FIRES US!—*The Beggar's Opera.*
The Lovers of the Drama, may have Superior Wines and Spirits, at very reduced Prices, by applying to The London and Westminster Wine and Spirit Company, 16, Strand, near Northumberland House.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, the Tragedy of

FOSCARI.

Foscari, *(Doge of Venice)* Mr YOUNG,
Francesco Foscari, *(his Son)* Mr C. KEMBLE,
Count Erizzo, Mr WARDE, Cosmo, Mr SERLE,
Count Zeno, Mr HORREBOW,
Donato, Mr EGERTON, Celso, Mr FITZHARRIS,
Laura, Miss HENRY,
Camilla, *(Donato's Daughter)* Mrs SLOMAN.

To conclude with

Amateurs & Actors.

Mr O. P. Bustle, Mr G. PENSON,
Who will introduce "*Amor Perche Mi Pizzichi,*"
David Dulcet, Esq. Mr PEARMAN,
Elderberry, Mr BARTLEY,
Wing, Mr POWER, Timkins, Mr EVANS,
Berry, Mr LEY,
Geoffry Muffincap, Mr KEELEY,
Miss Mary Hardacre.....Miss HENRY,
Mrs Mary Goneril, Miss JONES.

The Music in Oberon Peveril of the Peak, The Oracle, and The Death-Fetch,

Is published at The Royal Harmonic Institution, 246, Regent Street.

The Music in the admired Comic Opera of The Two Houses of Grenada,

Is published by F. T. LATOUR, No. 50, New Bond Street.

The Music of the Bavarian Girl's Song,

Buy a Broom,' with a Portrait of Mad. Vestris,

(In Character) is published by MAYHEW & Co. 17, Old Bond Street.

The Music in The Flying Dutchman,

Composed by G. H. RODWELL, is published by GOULDING & Co. Soho Square

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Fashionable Exhibitions.—Open Daily.

DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—Two New Views; the interior of Roslyn Chapel, painted by M. Daguerre, and the City of Rouen, painted by Mr. Bouton, with various Effects of Light and Shade.—Open daily from Ten till Four.—N. B. Fine weather is not essential for seeing the present Views, as the Sunshine is produced with equal effect on the most Cloudy Day.

PANORAMA, Leicester Square—MADRID is now open in the Large Circle; this View comprises all that is interesting in that celebrated City;—also, a View of MEXICO, upwards of two centuries the Capital of the Spanish Settlement in America.—Admittance to each One Shilling.

Printed and Published by E. Thomas, Denmark-court, Exeter-change, Strand
All Communications must be post paid.—Printing in General.

XUM

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, the Opera of

HENRI QUATRE,

Henri Quatre, Mr WALLACK, Moustache, Mr DOWTON,
Jocrise, Mr HARLEY, Duke de Sully, Mr ARCHER,
General D'Aumont, Mr BROWNE, Frederick St. Leon, Mr YOUNGE
Eugene de Biron, Mr SOUTHWELL, O'Donnel, Mr BURKE,
Pingeau, Mr GATTIE, Gervaise, Mr COMER.
Florence St. Leon, Miss GRADDON, Louison, Miss STEPHENS,
Clotilde de Biron, Miss PINCOTT,

After which, (1st time) a new Piece, called

The Lottery Ticket,

AND

THE LAWYER'S CLERK.

Capas, Mr W. BENNETT,
Wormwood. ....M. LA PORTE, Charles.....Mr HOOPER,
Mrs Corset, Mrs C. JONES, Susan, Mrs ORGER.

To conclude with, The

Knights of the Cross.

Richard Cœur de Lion, Mr WALLACK,
Philip, King of France, Mr C. JONES, Leopold, Mr WEBSTER,
Beau Secant, Mr COMER, Conrade, Mr HOWELL,
Sir Kenneth, Knight of the Leopard, Mr SOUTHWELL,
Sir Thomas of Gilsland, Mr THOMPSON, Blondel, Mr YARNOLD,
Hermit of Engaddi, Mr YOUNGE,
Emir of the Desert, El Hakein, and Saladin, Mr ARCHER,
Neville, Mr FENTON, Executioner, Mr READ,
Allan and Woodfal, Messrs. G. SMITH and PLUMSTEAD.
Berengaria, Miss NICOL, Edith Plantagenet, Mrs W. WEST.

Fashionable Exhibitions.—Open Daily.

The New Moving Panorama, 135, Oxford Street—*The Bombardment of Algiers* with Two additional Views and a minute Description of each revolving View, accompanied by a Military Band.—Open from 10 till 4, & from 6 till 10.—Saloon. 2s. Amphitheatre, 1s. Back range, 6d. Half-price for Children to Saloon.

Two Chinese Ladies.—The only Female Natives of the Celestial Empire ever seen in Europe—These interesting and elegant Objects of Public Curiosity, the eldest 24 years, the youngest is scarcely 18, are at the Grand Saloon, 94, Pall Mall—Admittance 2s. 6d. Children under 12 years, 1s.

Mr. FINN's Fancy Glass-working Exhibiton, in Miniature, displaying the Art of Modelling and Working, Removed from the Strand, to 164, Regent Street.

ROYAL THEATRES—Private Boxes for all the Theatres, and Admissions for the season; a splendid Stage Box at Drury, for eight Persons, £2 2s. to be had nightly—CHARLES WRIGHT, next the King's Theatre, Opera Colonade, Hay Market—*Fine Sparkling Champaign* 63*s*.